

grocer who discovered the attractions of sugar.

In the winter of 1923, T. A. M. Nash and I spent many a profitable Sunday pupa digging there. — D. G. Sevastopulo, F. R. E. S., P. O. Box 95617, Mombasa (Nyali), Kenya.

DONACIINI (COL.: CHRYSOMELIDAE): A POSTSCRIPT. — In the course of my editorial notes appended to Mr. Parry's paper on these beetles, I wrote (*antea*: 11, note 2) that the hydrofuge pile clothing the underside in *Donacia* and *Plateumaris* was not possessed by *Macrolea*. This as it stands is somewhat misleading and requires to be expanded, since the statement might be understood to mean that the ventral surface in *Macrolea* is glabrous like the dorsal, which is not the case. Indeed Fowler (1890, *Col. Brit. Isl.*, 4: 278) writes that the underside is "clothed with yellowish-silvery pubescence which is sometimes golden". However, after careful examination under a high power, I am convinced that this clothing in *Macrolea* is of a different nature from that found in the other two genera. It appears rather to be an amorphous, probably waxy, secretion or crust, analogous perhaps to that of certain aquatic weevils; pale whitish ochreous, scarcely metallic but slightly iridescent about the antennal bases etc. It is easily abraded, and when a little is scraped off with a needle no structure is discernible.

In note 7 I mentioned having taken *Donacia versicolorea* singly in early September. It is worth remarking that three examples from P. Harwood's duplicates (overlooked at the time of writing) were taken as late as 25.ix; this clearly is not a case of an isolated straggler, but points to the species as, in all likelihood, habitually the latest of our *Donacia* to be active in the open. More exceptional, no doubt, is a *D. versicolorea* labelled as taken in February (*ex coll. J. Cribb*). It can hardly have been active at that season, but there is nothing to say how it was captured.

Finally I should like to correct a couple of misprints: note 4, last line, insert 'be' before 'common'; note 7, first line, insert 'I' before 'agree'. — A. A. ALLEN.

HORISME AQUATA HUEBNER (CUMBRIAN UMBER). — A set specimen of this dubious British moth was recently spotted in the collections of the Hancock Museum by Mr. T. Melling a zoology undergraduate of Bolton. It was in a series labelled *H. vitalbata* D. & S. (Small Waved UMBER), in the J. J. Joicey collection of British Lepidoptera. The specimen bears two labels one of which reads "coll. of G. C. Alston" and the second "Cumberland J. W. Tutt". The specimen is of special interest because of an article by Tutt in *Ent. Record* 1900, vol. 12, pp. 35 (and 82, 85) and another by Cockayne in *Ent. Record* 1952, vol. 64 pp. 73-75. Four of Tutt's specimens are apparently in the B. M. (N.H.) and the fifth is unaccounted for — this may be the one in the Joicey Collection. I would be interested to learn from any reader information about G. C. Alston. Who was he and where and when did he live? — A. G. LONG, Deputy Curator, Hancock Museum, Newcastle upon Tyne.